

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 11, 17, 18-21, 23, and 24 remain pending. In this Amendment, Applicants have cancelled claims 12-16, 22, 25, and 26, without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter. Applicants note that the Examiner's rejection of dependent claim 12 was overruled by the Board, and Applicants have accordingly amended independent claim 17 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of now-cancelled claim 12.

Applicants file this Amendment in accordance with the provisions set forth in M.P.E.P. § 1214.07, without a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). M.P.E.P. § 1214.07 states that, in the present situation, "[i]f the amendment obviously places an application in condition for allowance, regardless of whether the amendment is filed with an RCE, the primary examiner should recommend that the amendment be entered..."

Applicants submit that the amendments made herein render the application *prima facie* in condition for allowance on the basis of independent claim 17, and claims 11, 18-21, 23, and 24 dependent therefrom.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
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Dated: November 7, 2007

By: 

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